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GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE AND MAPS

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BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES

AMERICA

Annual Report of the Topographical Surveys Branch, Dept. of the Interior, 1909-1910. v and 162 pp., 19 illustrations and, in separate pocket, 10 maps and 8 profiles. Ottawa, 1911.

This *Report* of the Canadian government bureau corresponding to our General Land Office, which covers the year ended March 31st, 1910, contains the usual summary of the year's work by the Surveyor General (pp. 1-19) and extracts from the individual reports of the Dominion Land Surveyors. Beginning with this volume the description of the townships subdivided during the year will be omitted, as they are of little general interest. They will be printed separately for land seekers and intending settlers. The individual reports include:

Measurement of Kootenay Base Line by P. A. Carson (pp. 53-70). This base line, over five miles long, measured with an invar apparatus, was laid out in the Columbia Valley, about twenty-five miles S.E. of Golden on the Canadian Pacific Ry. It controls the complete network of the triangulation survey in the Railway Belt of British Columbia, from the summit of the main range of the Rocky Mountains westward to the Coast Range.

A. H. Hawkins (*Report*, pp. 84-91) throws much new light on the country at the head of the Smoky and Simonette Rivers along the eastern flank of the Rockies in 54° N. and suggests the reservation of this tract as a national park and game reserve.

J. N. Wallace's survey (pp. 148-154) of a part of the Fourth Meridian (110° W.) led to the delineation of a lake not hitherto shown on any map, Primrose Lake, in $54\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ N., extending forty miles in a S.W.-N.E. direction.

The information in the *Reports* of the Topographical Surveys Branch is in the nature of raw material and requires correlating to become of general value. This is a task which amply repays any tediousness it may involve because of the wealth of new data the reports contain as to the topographic features and natural resources of large tracts of territory which, in many cases, are practically unexplored.

W. L. G. J.

A Descriptive Sketch of the Geology, and Economic Minerals of Canada. By G. A. Young. With an Introduction by R. W. Brock. Geological Survey of Canada, Pub. No. 1085. 151 pp., 82 illustrations, 2 maps. Ottawa, 1909.

Synthetic works are fundamental because they give a general survey of their field, correlate its facts and thereby present them in their true perspective. It is highly encouraging that the official survey organizations, both national and